

Virginia Department of Veterans Services

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Veterans Day Open House Planned for Veterans Cemeteries in Suffolk and Amelia

RICHMOND—Although many people don't realize it, Virginia has two veterans cemeteries operated by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. Each of these cemeteries will hold an open house on Friday, November 10 and Saturday, November 11 in honor of Veterans Day.

The Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery, located at 5310 Milners Road in Suffolk, will welcome visitors from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days. On Saturday, at 9 a.m., Boy Scout Troop 30 will place flags on each grave. The flags are provided by the Bethlehem Ruritan Club. At 10 a.m., the Bayside Harley Owners Group will hold a fifteen-minute service and lay a wreath at the Committal Shelter.

Flags will be placed on grave sites at the Amelia Veterans Cemetery, located at 10300 Pridesville Road. Weather permitting, 75 American flags will also be erected along the cemetery's perimeter road, creating the Avenue of Flags.

On both days and at both cemeteries, cemetery staff will help visitors locate grave sites, and military service members and veterans can file pre-applications for future burial in the cemeteries.

Service members who were honorably discharged and who were Virginia veterans either at the time of enlistment or at the time of death qualify for burial in one of Virginia's veterans cemeteries. A grave site, opening and closing of the grave, a marker, and perpetual care of the site are provided to the veteran at no charge. Veterans' spouses and eligible dependent children may be interred for a small fee, currently \$300.

"A lot of our veterans don't realize that these two cemeteries are available to them," commented Vince Burgess, Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services. "I live just 15 miles from the Amelia Cemetery and I didn't learn about it until I came to the Department of Veterans Services. We want to make sure that Virginia's veterans and their families know about these two beautiful facilities."

Visit www.virginiaforveterans.com for more information about Virginia's veterans cemeteries as well as other benefits available to veterans.

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—Sidebar—

Quick Facts About Virginia's Veterans Cemeteries

Albert G. Horton Memorial Veterans Cemetery

5310 Milner's Road

Suffolk, Virginia 23434

757-255-7217

Acreage: 74

Capacity: 35,456 sites (casketed gravesites, in-ground cremation sites, and columbarium niches)

First Burial: December 13, 2004

Virginia Veterans Cemetery at Amelia

10300 Pridesville Road

Amelia, Virginia 23002

Acreage: 127

Capacity: 57,324 sites (casketed gravesites, in-ground cremation sites, and columbarium niches)

First Burial: June 18, 1997